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# Urban District Council of Budleigh Salterton



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1966



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BUDLEIGH SALTERTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,  
Budleigh Salterton.

June, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1966, which includes sections kindly supplied by the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

From a study of the statistics for the area, it will be seen that the estimated resident population has remained the same, 3,810, but that the number of inhabited dwellings has increased from 1,503 in 1965 to 1,622 in 1966.

The number of live births registered during the year was 36, representing a standardised live birth rate of 16.9 which figure is a little higher than that for the previous year and lower than that for the country as a whole.

There was a decrease in the standardised death rate for the district as compared with the previous year and the figure of 10.1 per 1,000 resident population is slightly lower than that for England and Wales (11.7).

I am pleased to report that infant mortality during year was nil.

Only three cases of notifiable infectious diseases were recorded, 2 cases of measles and one case of pneumonia.

In conclusion I should like to thank all members of the Council and the Staff for their continued interest and co-operation which they have extended to me during the year.

I have the honour to be  
Your Obedient Servant

L.G. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.



S T A F FMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

L.G.Anderson M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

P.M.Walsh, L.F.S., C.R.S.H.

ASSISTANT TO SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

J.E.Miller, M.B.E., E.D., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



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1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	1,018
Resident Population (Mid-year 1966)	
as estimated by the Registrar General,	3,810
Rateable Value (1st April, 1966)	£233,933
Product of a penny rate (1st April, 1966)	£928
Number of inhabited houses	1,622

2. VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Live Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	25	10	35
Illegitimate	-	1	-
Total	25	11	36

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	9.5
Standardised birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.9
Live birth rate per 1,000 civilian population England & Wales	17.7

(b) Still Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	-	1	1

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	27.9
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births England & Wales	15.3

(c) Deaths.

	Males	Females	Total
	40	42	82
Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			21.2
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident			population 10.1
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population England & Wales			11.7
Death from maternal causes	NIL.		



(d) Infant Mortality. (deaths of infants under 1 year of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births Nil  
 Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births  
 England & Wales 18.9

3. LIVE BIRTHS.

During 1966, 25 boys and 11 girls, total of 36 babies were born, which are two more than last year.

The following table shows the live births rate during the last ten years :-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Budleigh Salterton	9.9	9.7	9.2	9.5	10.5	10.7	11.6	9.3	11.2	9.5
Standardised	13.6	13.2	12.6	13.0	14.4	14.7	21.2	16.7	16.0	16.9
England & Wales	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE.

Of the 36 infants born during 1966, one was illegitimate. The illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live births, for the last 10 years is as follows :-

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
105.2	108.1	174.4	81.1	54.0	100.0	93.0	85.3	-	27.9

5. STILL BIRTHS.

There was one still birth registered during the year.



6. DEATHS.(a) Causes of Death.

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

	Males	Females	Total
Cancer			
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus		1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lungs & Bronchus	6	1	7
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	-	7	7
Coronary disease, angina	14	4	18
Other heart disease	7	6	13
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-	2
Other circulatory diseases	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	2	9	11
Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	1	1
Pneumonia	-	4	4
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	-	1
Influenza	1	-	1
Bronchitis	2	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	4	6
All other accidents	-	2	2
Suicide	1	1	2
TOTAL	40	42	82



Of the whole population residing in the urban district 82 died. (40 males and 42 females). This represents a corrected death rate of 21.2 but which, when allowances for age and sex distribution have been made represents a "standardised" death rate of 10.1. This rate is slightly lower than that of England and Wales as a whole (11.7).

The following table shows the "Corrected" and "Standardised" death rates for Budleigh Salterton urban district for the last 10 years :-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Corrected	21.1	19.6	17.7	20.8	18.2	17.7	18.9	18.1	27.0	21.2
Standard-ised	11.6	10.8	10.8	11.4	10.1	9.7	9.2	8.8	13.0	10.1
England & Wales	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7

As in preceeding years, the most prevalent causes of death were diseases of the heart, 33 cases (37%). Cancer caused 15 deaths, (18%); and vascular lesions of the Central Nervous system caused 11 deaths (13%).

There were two deaths due to misadventure recorded this year :-

Female aged 79 Lacerations of Scalp.  
Fall.

Female aged 84 Fracture, dislocation of cervical spine.

There were two suicides recorded for this year :-

Male aged 61 Asphyxia due to hanging.  
Took his own life while the balance  
of his mind was disturbed.

Female aged 50 An overdose of barbiturate.  
Deceased took her own life.

(b) Age at death.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Males	73.2	75.2	73.7	71.7	69.0	75.1	62.6	64.5	67.1	76.2
Females	72.9	76.6	78.4	76.2	77.8	76.6	75.1	75.4	76.1	77.2
England & Wales	67.8 73.3	67.7 73.3	67.8 73.6	68.0 73.6	68.1 73.9	68.1 74.0	68.0 73.9			





The following table shows the incidence of deaths at various age groups (from returns supplied by the local Registrar of Births and Deaths).

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 1 year				
1 & under 5				
5+				
15+				
25+				
35+				
45+	-	1	1	1.2
55+	6	3	9	11.4
65+	13	8	21	25.3
75 and over	21	30	51	62.1

#### 7. INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births registered.

Budleigh Salterton Nil.  
England and Wales 19.0

#### 8. CANCER.

During 1966, 15 cases of deaths from cancer were recorded. The various parts of the body affected are shown below :-

	Males	Females	Total
Uterus	-	1	1
Lungs & Bronchus	6	1	7
Other Lymphatic & Malignant Neoplasms	-	7	7
Total	6	9	15

The incidence of deaths from cancer during the last 10 years is as follows :-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Males	6	7	10	5	6	4	8	2	11	6
Females	8	5	9	5	8	6	4	11	8	9
Total	14	12	19	10	14	10	12	13	19	15
Rate per 1,000 Population	3.6	3.1	5.0	2.6	3.8	1.5	3.7	3.4	5.0	4.0



9. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.(a) Measles.

There were two cases of measles in 1966 as compared with seven last year.

(b) The table below shows the incidence of various notifiable infectious diseases for the year 1966 :-

	Number of cases Notified	Deaths
Measles	2	-
Pneumonia	1	-

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases grouped according to age:-

	Under 1 yr.	1+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	Total
Measles	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

Below is tabulated the incidence (numbers notified) of various infectious diseases during the last 10 years :-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Measles	5	49	17	42	31	63	23	-	7	2
Whooping Cough	14	7	4	10	3	1	7	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	11	3	2	-	1	-	4	1	-	-
Pneumonia	3	4	-	8	6	9	5	2	-	1
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

10. TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1966, one new case of tuberculosis was notified.  
A male.



11. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

The Health Services provided by the local health authority, (Devon County Council), under Part 11 and 111 of the Act as applicable to your district are briefly set out below :-

Part 11.(a) Hospital Facilities.i. General.

The urban district is well served by the Budleigh Salterton Cottage Hospital, Tel. No. 2020, where there is accommodation for :-

Male	8 beds	General	2 beds
Female	8 beds	Amenity	1 bed.
Private	2 beds		

In addition to the above, use is made of :-

1. The Royal, Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East, Exeter. Tel. No. 72261. 305 beds.
2. The Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Buckerell Bore, Exeter. Tel. No. 54217. 116 beds.
3. The West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter. Tel. No. 73183. 62 beds including 2 private and 2 isolation.
4. The Exmouth Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth. Tel. No. 4381. 45 beds.

ii. Maternity.

1. Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter. 10 beds.
2. Mowbray House, Exeter. 24 beds.
3. Exeter City Hospital, 265 beds including 41 maternity beds and 15 cots for premature babies.

iii. Isolation.

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Exeter City Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter. Tel. No. 67158, as in previous years.

iv. Smallpox.

As the Smallpox Hospital at Upton Pyne has closed any cases of Smallpox are now sent to the hospital at Liskeard.

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a consultant, arrangements have been made to call upon :-

1. East Devon. Dr. E.J.G. Wallace, Health Centre, Westham Road, WEYMOUTH, Dorset.

Tel. No. 1645 and  
Home Tel. No. 1513

2. Cornwall and Devon to the River Exe.

Dr. W.H.St. John-Brooke, West Cornwall Hospital, PENZANCE, Cornwall

Tel. No. 2382.  
Home Tel.No. Cockwells 356.

(b) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter. Tel. No. 77833, under the direction of Dr. B.Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.





(c) VENEREAL DISEASE.

Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre.

The Royal, Devon & Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

Males - -	Monday	7 - 8 p.m.	Friday	2. - 3 p.m.
Females -	Monday	6 - 7 p.m.	Friday	3. - 4 p.m.

(d) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Three ambulances are kept at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Exmouth. Tel. 2857. In the district served the ambulances have carried 3,105 patients and have attended 85 street accidents. 8 home accidents have been attended and a total of 39,097 miles have been covered.

Part III.(a) CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

A Health Visitor is assigned to this district; Mrs. T.M. Barry, 32, Shortwood Close, Budleigh Salterton. Tel. No. 2625. Dr. N.E.R. Archer of Budleigh Salterton is the Medical Officer who attends the Infant Welfare Centre.

The Infant Welfare Clinic is held at the Church Institute, Budleigh Salterton on the first and third Wednesday in each month from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and the Antenatal Clinic is held, also at the Church Institute, on the second and fourth Wednesday in each month, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

During 1966 the following attendances were made :-

No of sessions held	Total attendances by infants 0 - 1	Total attendances by children 1 - 5
24	36	75

(b) MATERNITY.

There is one District Nurse, Midwife, in this district; Nurse Powlesland, Burnside, Halse Lane, Budleigh Salterton. Tel. no. 3274.

(c) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest maternity unit, in this case, the Exeter City Hospital, where there are 15 cots for premature babies.





Report of the Surveyor and  
Public Health Inspector

12. Water Supply

The water supply in this district has been under the control of the East Devon Water Board since 1st October, 1964.

All domestic properties are connected to the main water supply and during the year 35 new properties were connected.

156 samples of water for bacteriological examinations were taken by the Board from various sources within the District and all of these proved satisfactory.

13. Rodent Control.

During the year 129 properties were inspected either as a result of complaints or because of survey under the Act. Of these, 72 premises were found to be infested and treated accordingly 146 rats being destroyed.

All Council properties including the refuse tip are inspected regularly and treated as required. A total of 212 rats are known to have been destroyed made up as follows, private houses 146, block treatments 8, refuse tip 58.

It is of some interest to record that two treatments at the Refuse Tip gave widely differing results. The first yielded 58 rats whilst the second, with an equal number of baits, produced none at all. At the second treatment the operator noticed that a number of cats were on the tip which may well have had an influence on the nil result.

Test baiting of sewers was carried out during the year, but with negative results.

14. Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewerage for disposal is discharged into the sea between one hour after high water and one hour before low water, the sewer outfall valve being operated electrically on a tidal time switch to maintain these conditions. No problems or difficulties were encountered.

15. House Refuse.

House refuse is collected weekly from all premises within the area, additional collections being made from certain trade premises, a service for which a special charge is made.

Refuse is disposed of at the controlled tip at South Farm Road and, judging from the very few complaints received, it has been well maintained throughout the year. During the warmer months when flies are likely to be prevalent, regular spraying with insecticide on the tip face was carried out to minimise any possible nuisance

16. Housing.

During the year 15 new houses and 14 new flats have been erected by private enterprise within the District. These comprised 7 two-bedroom and 8 three-bedroom houses, all the flats being two bedroom.

6 flats at Chapel Street were completed by the Council and occupied during March/April. The Council now own 257 properties as against 251 in 1965.

A total of 500 defects in Council properties were dealt with by direct labour.



17. Food.

i) The number and type of food premises in the Urban District are as follows :-

Bakehouses .....	2
Butchers .....	4
Confectioners .....	3
Dairies .....	2
Fishmongers (Retail).....	2
Fishmongers (Wholesale) .....	2
Greengrocers .....	4
Grocers .....	9
Hotels & Guest Houses .....	13
Public Houses .....	4
Restaurants and Cafes .....	11
Wholesale Stores .....	2

ii) The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act is :-

Ice Cream .....	7
Manufactured Food .....	4

iii) During the year 129 visits were made to Food premises and any necessary advice given. Generally, the standards of hygiene and cleanliness in such premises are good.

iv) With the appointment of an additional Public Health Inspector it was possible to carry out some routine food sampling. 25 samples of bulk ice cream and 4 samples of crabmeat were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and the results are as follows :-

<u>Ice Cream</u>	Grade I .....	16
	Grade II .....	4
	Grade III .....	3
	Grade IV .....	1

Crabmeat All were satisfactory

In the case of ice cream the ideal is that all samples should achieve Grade I and certainly anything below Grade II is unacceptable, therefore, the fact that 4 samples were below this standard was cause for concern. Where poor results were obtained advice was given and further samples were taken and, in all cases, there was improvement indicating that, acting on the advice, the persons concerned had improved their methods of obtaining the cleanliness of their serving utensils.

These unsatisfactory results are not a reflection on the manufacturers of proprietary blends of ice cream because all the samples were taken from bulk served with a scoop so that the fault lay with the retailer in his poor technique of serving rather than the ice cream itself.

There is no legal standard laid down for the bacteriological purity of crabmeat, but all 4 samples came within the limits laid down by the International Working Party.

v) The quantity of food condemned during the year was as follows :-

185 lbs.	tinned meat
30 tins	fish
221 tins	vegetables
264 tins	fruit
102 tins	fruit juice
30 Kilos	fruit pulp
348 lbs.	fresh fish
15 tins	miscellaneous products.

The total weight of this condemned food was 10 cwt. 110 lbs and if this seems much for a small town it must be remembered that a large Wholesale grocer operating within the district is the source of much of it, which is voluntarily surrendered. All condemned food is disposed of by burial at the Council's refuse tip at South Farm Road.





vi) There are no premises within the Urban District used for the manufacture of Ice Cream and, therefore, coming within the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

#### Swimming Pools.

Since the last report a private swimming pool has been installed at one of the Hotels. This pool uses filtered and chlorinated fresh water, the water being recirculated after passing through the purification process. With the ready co-operation of the proprietor bacteriological samples of the water were taken at intervals during the summer. 8 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and every one proved satisfactory. This reflects credit on to the proprietor who went to a great deal of trouble to find out the correct way to operate the plant under varying conditions.

A Swimming Pool has also been installed at St. Peter's V.P.School and came into use in the early summer. Samples of the pool water are taken at regular intervals by the County Sampling Officer and have proved uniformly good.

#### 18. Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963.

A total of 202 visits were made under this Act : The subject is dealt with fully in a separate report which has to be submitted to H.N.Inspector of Factories but the statistics relating to this work are as follows :-

#### Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	Registered during year	Total registered	Received Inspection during year
Offices	-	13	-
Retail Shops	4	47	-
Wholesale warehouses	-	2	-
Catering Establishments & Canteens	4	11	4
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Total	4	73	4

#### Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed.
Offices	82
Retail Shops	132
Wholesale shops and warehouses	39
Catering Establishments and Canteens	44
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	297
Total Males	133
Total Females	164

#### Staff

There were no alterations in staff during the year.



19. Factories Act 1961.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	4	-	-
ii Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	10	24	-	-
iii Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	11	28	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. By H.M. Insp. Insp. (4) (5)		(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Convs. (S.7)					
a. insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
c. not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	-	-	-

3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

No outworkers were notified as employed in the District during the year.







